

St Louis Jan 8th 1867

My Dear Doctor

I owe you an apology for not sending those *Potamogetons* sooner. I found nothing remarkable among my specimens; never had paid much attention to them — though at one time I tried to fathom them.

I would have overlooked that broad cordate leaved specimen entirely if you had not directed my especial attention to it. It is peculiar to the small ponds and sinkholes, as they are called here, on our hilly country. I find a flowerless specimen from the Region where Richl lived and one with fruit from nearer town. The same could be easily collected again, I suppose (though improvements have destroyed many of those ponds), if it should prove a distinct species. I had always taken it for *P. natans*, var. *stagnalis*.



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cm

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Please retain what I send, or throw
away what is not worth keeping.

I also send you some *Hostes*, which
I suppose will interest you.

The labels you find in this letter.
The specimens are in the order of
the numbers, beginning with a Texan
Pot. natans (or *lucens* ?) and ending
with *H. Hostes longimanus*.

Moreover you find a small pencil
number in the corner of each piece
of paper on which the specimen is laid
to which the number belongs, beginning
the wrong way, with 16. *Hostes* and ending
with 1. *Potamogeton*.

Nic. Richl was a very zealous botanist
and cultivator 10 miles from here, where
he collected many plants and sent them
to Colmar, Alsace (a formerly German
province of France) where they were
named and distributed to subscribers;
he died some 12 years ago.

Watch those singular capillary
leaves. What I have not found out
yet is whether every *Shorea* / *Antitaxis*
has such leaves, or only in your swift
streams. More about it another time.
Too much haste now

give me the names of these
Potamogeton.

Yours Truly
J. Engelmann



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Porter's & Engelman's
Polanogeton's with
a few (Poets put with others)

Dr. Vasey's package
is also enclosed
All to be named
and the names
forwarded



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Cut from 11x17"
Folder 26 Feb 2001



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